

## Message Text

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71

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-03 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

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R 281400Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 027

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, JM

SUBJECT: U.S.-JAMAICA TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A) STATE 12205, B) 75 KINGSTON 2343, C) 75 KINGSTON A-121

1. LESLIE WILSON, UNDERSECRETARY IN JAMAICAN MINISTRY OF TRADE, INFORMED EMBOFF ON JANUARY 27 THAT GOJ INVITATION TO HOLD BILATERAL TEXTILE DISCUSSIONS IN JAMAICA AFTER FEBRUARY 4 STILL STANDS.

2. ACCORDING TO WILSON, GOJ IS INTERESTED PRIMARILY IN NEGOTIATING A BILATERAL AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD QUANTIFY AN AGGREGATE AS WELL AS SET LIMITS FOR EXPORT OF SPECIFIC CATEGORIES (BRASSIERES, GLOVES, ETC.) OF COTTON TEXTILES, MANMADE FIBERS, AND APPAREL TO U.S. GOJ BELIEVES THESE LIMITS WOULD INDICATE FIXED LEVELS IN U.S. MARKET WHICH JAMAICAN MANUFACTURERS WOULD KNOWINGLY NOT EXCEED AND PROVIDE NUMERICAL QUOTE PARAMETERS UNQUOTE UPON WHICH GOJ COULD PLAN EXPANSION OF ITS GARMENT SECTOR. WILSON SAID GOJ AWARE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ALREADY EXISTED BETWEEN U.S. AND OTHER TEXTILE EXPORTERS SUCH AS HONG KONG, TAIWAN, AND HOPED THAT USG AND GOJ COULD WORK OUT A CLEAR AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD DEFINE TERMS SUCH AS MARKET DISRUPTION. WILSON EMPHASIZED THE GOJ WOULD GLADLY CONSIDER ANY US PROPOSALS.

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3. IN GENERAL TERMS, WILSON SAID THAT GOJ STILL PLANNED TO TRAINPERSONNEL AND UPGRADE GARMENT FACILITIES FROM 1976 TO 78, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THERE WOULD BE A MARKED INCREASE IN JAMAICAN TEXTILE EXPORTS TO U.S. MARKET BEGINNING IN 1979-80.

COMMENT: WILSON WAS AMICABLE, OPEN AND STRESSED GOJ DESIRE TO CONCLUDE A BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IN EARLIER JANUARY CONVERSATION, DOUGLAS HANNAY, JIDC PLANNER FOR GARMENT SECTOR, INFORMED EMBOFF THAT ITS PORTION DEALING WITH EXPANSION OF GARMENT SECTOR - PART OF THE GOJ'S GREEN PAPER - HAD BEEN SENT TO MINISTRY OF TRADE FOR REVIEW. THIS PORTION WILL BE RELEASED ONLY WHEN THE GREEN PAPER IS TABLED IN THE JAMAICAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. REF. C, MR. HANNAY SAID THE TRELAWNY GARMENT FACTOR SHOULD BE OPENING IN JUNE 76.  
GERARD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
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